

REMARKS

Claims 40-98 constitute the pending claims in the present application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following remarks.

1. The claims were previously rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, and 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Applicants maintain the arguments of record and contend that the previously pending claims satisfied all of the requirements for patentability. Nevertheless, to expedite prosecution of claims directed to commercially relevant subject matter, Applicants have amended the claims. Applicants' amendments are not in acquiescence of any of the previously cited grounds of rejection, and Applicants reserve the right to prosecute claims of similar or differing scope. Applicants' amendments are believed to obviate the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, and 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Reconsideration and withdrawal are respectfully requested.

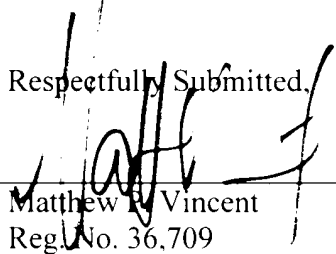
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully solicited. The Examiner may address any questions raised by this submission to the undersigned at 617-951-7000. Should an extension of time be required, Applicants hereby petition for same and request that the extension fee and any other fee required for timely consideration of this submission be charged to **Deposit Account No. 18-1945**.

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Respectfully Submitted,



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